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New Horizons 2012: United States and Peru to Undertake Joint Humanitarian and Civil Engineering Activities in Ica and Huancavelica Regions

LIMA, APRIL 18, 2012 – From June 4 to August 31, 2012, the United States and Peru will undertake the joint civil engineering and medical assistance exercise “New Horizons 2012” that will benefit six communities in the Ica and Huancavelica Regions. The three-month exercise will feature construction of community facilities, a disaster response exercise, and the provision of free medical care to an estimated 30,000 people. New Horizons activities provide assistance to areas in need and advance Peru’s social inclusion goals while also enhancing military and civilian cooperation and disaster response capabilities. New Horizons is a joint effort of the Governments of the United States and Peru. It is led by the Peruvian Ministries of Defense and Health, the U.S. Embassy and the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM). Regional and municipal authorities in the Regions of Ica and Huancavelica also provide essential logistical support.

New Horizons activities in the Ica Region will take place in three communities: 1. Chincha – construction of a multi-use community center and free medical care; 2. Pisco – free medical care, construction of a medical clinic, and joint disaster response exercise; 3. Ica – free medical care. Two communities in the Huancavelica Region will participate in New Horizons activities: 1. Huaytará – engineering expertise for the construction of a new school, and; 2. Huancavelica – free medical and surgical care. New Horizons locations were prioritized by the Government of Peru. An estimated 30,000 people are expected to benefit by receiving free medical care including surgeries.

Approximately 250 engineers, medical practitioners, and support personnel from the U.S. military will be present in Peru at any given time undertaking New Horizons activities. Over the course of the 90-day exercise a total of some 550 U.S. personnel are expected to take part on a rotational basis. Approximately 120 Peruvian military personnel are expected to work side-by-side with their American counterparts. The U.S. budget for New Horizons 2012 in Peru is approximately \$7 million. Additional information on New Horizons 2012 can be found at the U.S. Embassy website at <http://lima.usembassy.gov>.

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